HOW DID THE RANDOM VARIABLE GET INTO THE CLUB?
BY SHOWING A FAKE I.I.D.

Unattributed

MAIDEN LANE

ml here. this chapter was a doozy. i really admire translators who feel all the feels even after agonizing over word choice for the billionth time.

MONETARY EASING
visit **maiden-lane-translations.tumblr.com/donate** for details. all proceeds go towards my photoshop subscription.

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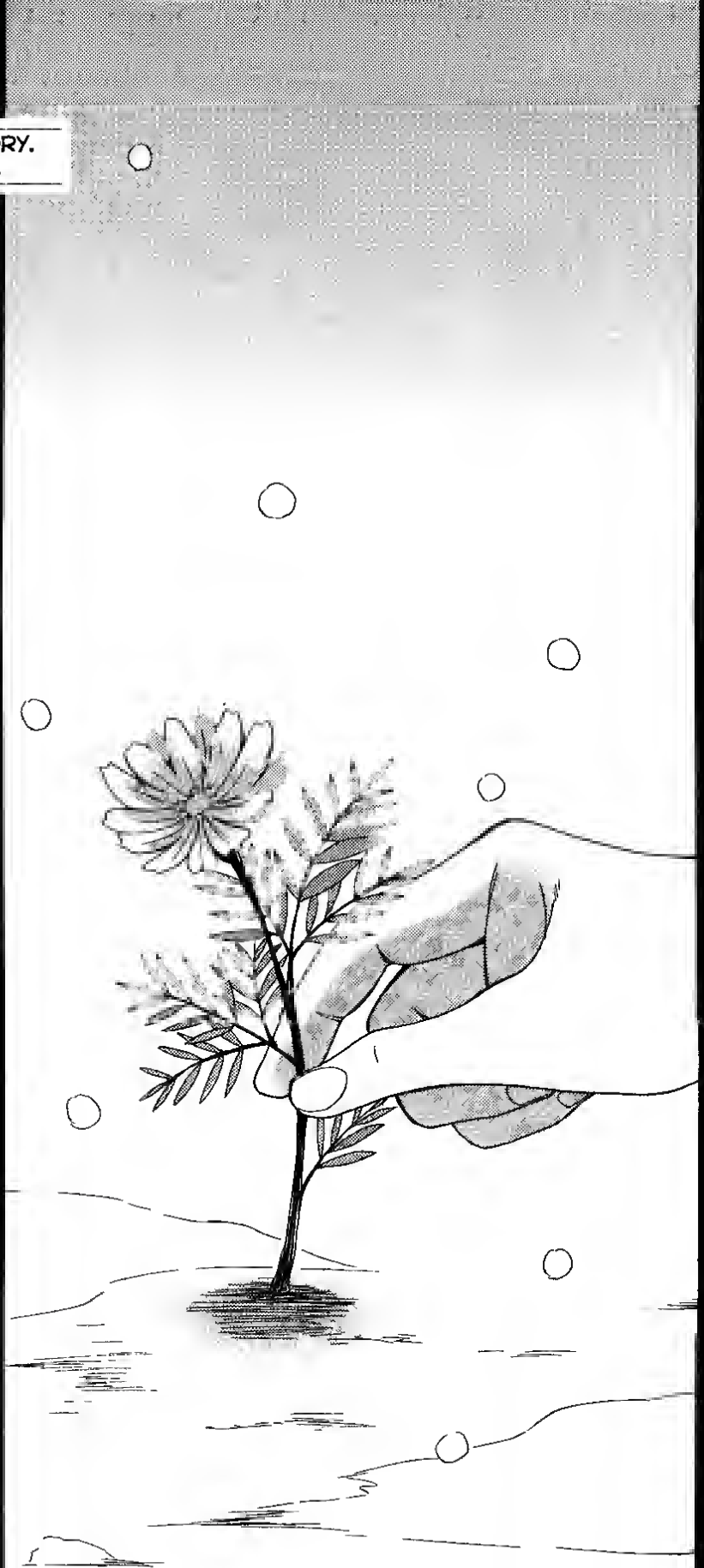
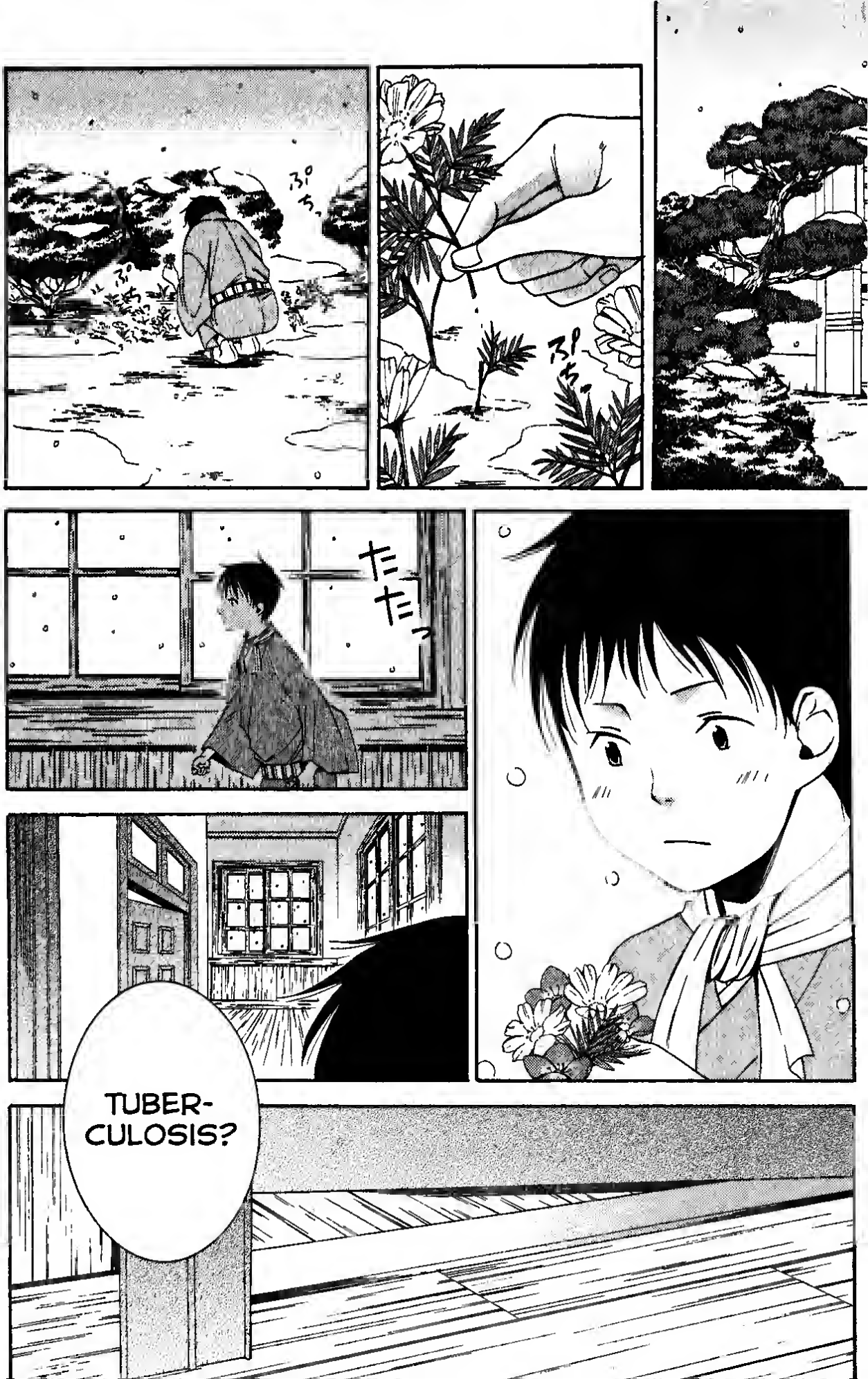
help a maiden out on redrawing and cleaning! visit **maiden-lane-translations.tumblr.com/help**. thanks.

EIGHTH STORY.
FLOWER.

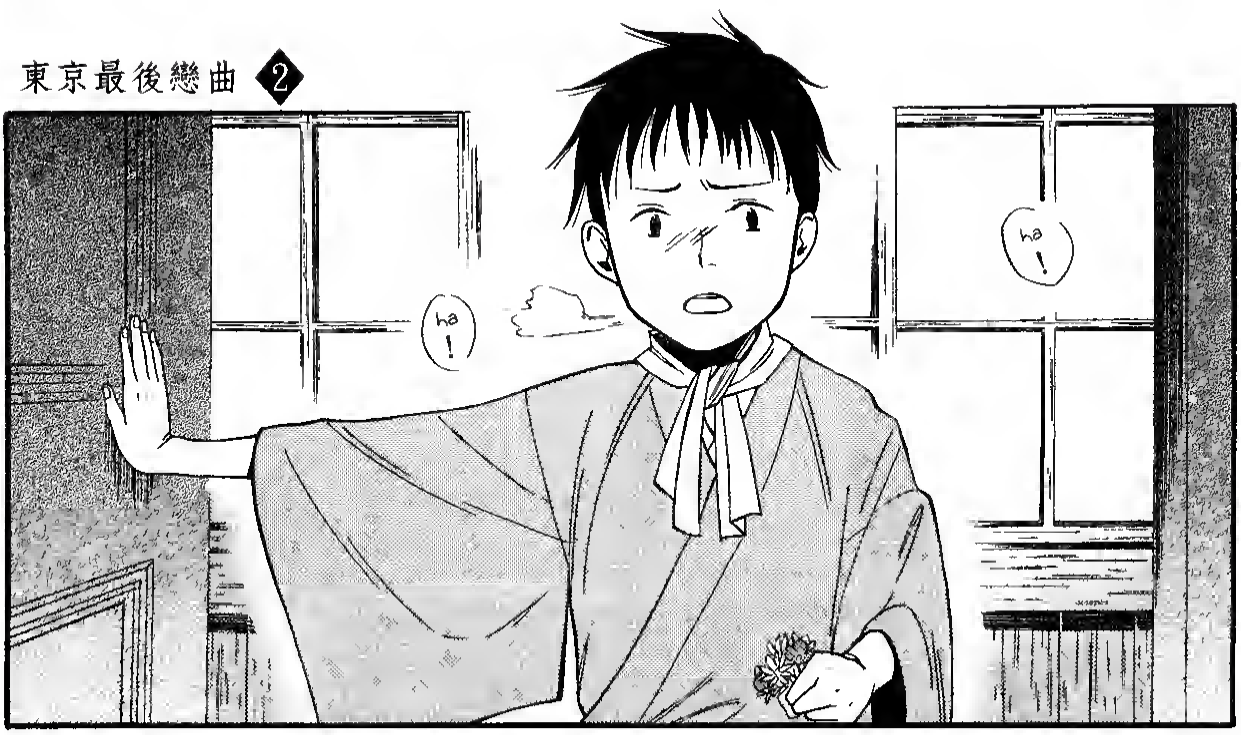


T/N: THE TITLE HAS A DOUBLE-MEANING, AS HANA'S NAME IS LITERALLY "FLOWER."


ぷちっ
ぷちっ
ぷちっ
たたっ
TUBER-
CULOSIS?

SHORTLY, I WILL HAVE YOU MOVED TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL.
...THAT'S RIGHT.
THERE, YOU CAN UNDERGO INTENSIVE TREATMENT.

EVERY-
ONE IS
DIFF-
ERENT,
SO THE
PACE OF
RECOVERY
WILL BE
DIFFERENT
AS WELL.
MAY I
ASK...
HOW LONG
WILL I BE
IN THE
HOSPI-
TAL?
BUT THIS
ILLNESS CAN'T
BE CURED,
RIGHT?
HAA


ha!
ha!

WHY WILL ONEE-CHAN ...
WHY?
AKI-YOSHI ...

WHY ...

ALL RIGHT.
I WILL GO LOOK FOR HIM.
AKI-YOSHI!
I ALSO ...
NO, YOU MUSTN'T, PLEASE CALM DOWN,
HANA ...

AH
...

PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
PLEASE DON'T WORRY YOURSELF,
IT'S ONLY ...
MITSUYUKI-SAMA, I ...
HAVE BEEN THINKING.
...WHAT'S THE MATTER?

FROM THIS DAY ONWARDS, MAY I RESIGN FROM THE ARIMA HOUSE-HOLD?

... YOU ... YOU MEAN ... YOU WISH TO LEAVE?

YES.

FOR THE HOSPITAL'S FEES UP UNTIL NOW, PLEASE TAKE THEM FROM MY WAGES.
HANA ...
IF IT'S NOT ENOUGH, I HAVE A SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY SAVED, PLEASE USE IT TO PAY THE FEES AS WELL.
HANA!
.....
THIS IS NOT THE TIME ...
TO TALK ABOUT THIS KIND OF THING ...
... I WAS THINKING OF WHEN MY MOTHER WAS SICK.

MY MOTHER PREVIOUSLY WORKED FOR THE ARIMA HOUSEHOLD AS WELL,
AND ALSO IN THE SAME WAY, FELL ILL AND DIED.
AFTER THAT, THE PREVIOUS MASTER OF THE HOUSEHOLD TOOK CARE OF ME, AND I HAVE BEEN VERY GRATEFUL.
BUT RIGHT NOW ...
RIGHT NOW I DON'T HAVE COURAGE TO CALMLY FACE THE CURRENT MASTER OF THE ARIMA HOUSEHOLD.

PLEASE ANSWER ME...
I ALWAYS ...
THOUGHT IT WOULD BE THIS WAY?
...YES.
I UNDER-STAND.

じろ…
splash!

SHE CONTRACTED TUBERCULOSIS ...
CHIZURU, YOU TOO.
I UNDERSTAND.
THAT'S RIGHT. AS A PRECAUTION, ALL THE SERVANTS WILL GO SEE THE DOCTOR.
MITSUYUKI-BOCCHAN, DID YOU REALLY LET HER RESIGN?
IS THIS REALLY ALL RIGHT, MITSUYUKI-BOCCHAN?

THIS DOES NOT NEED TO BE SAID. BECAUSE SHE CANNOT WORK ANYMORE, WE DO NOT HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO KEEP HER FED AND SHELTERED.
AM I NOT INCORRECT, MITSUYUKI?
... SHE WISHED IT HERSELF FOR IT TO BE THIS WAY.
WE ARE FINISHED DISCUSSING THIS HERE.
EVERYONE, BACK TO WORK.
AH, YES ...

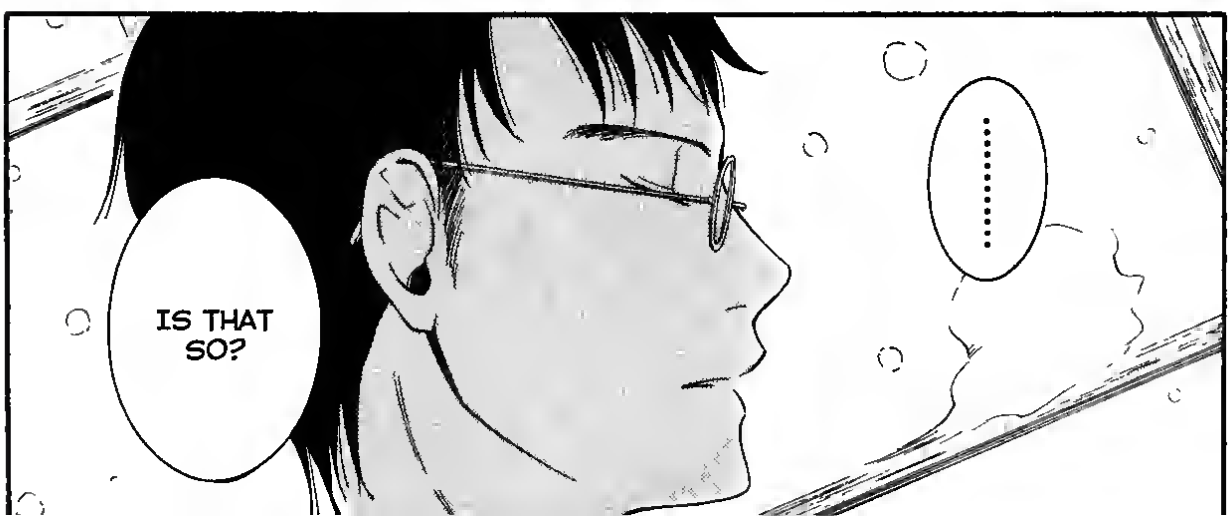
YOUR LITTLE BROTHER HAS LEFT.
ガラ〃

IN THE END, HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
YOU HAVE A GREAT RELATION-SHIP WITH YOUR SIBLING.
YES.
YOU HAVE TO FREQUENTLY OPEN THE WINDOW.
HOWEVER, IF YOU CATCH A COLD, DON'T WORRY. IT'S LIKE PUTTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR.
... FOR THIS TREAT-MENT, IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE AIR FLOWS FREELY.

MITSUYUKI... DID HE GO BACK YET?

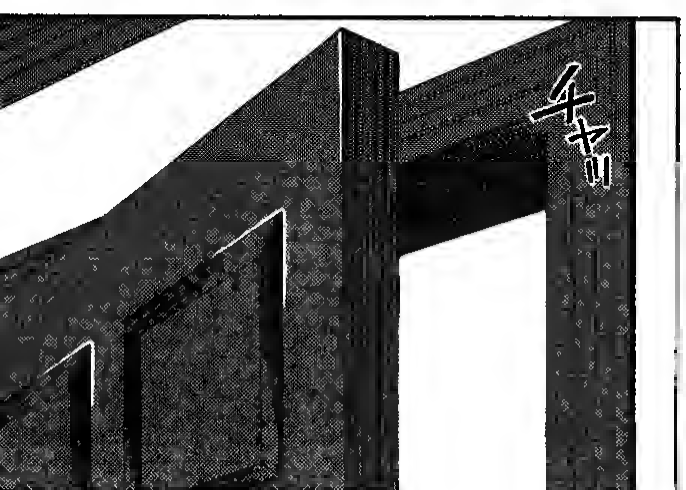
MITSUYUKI-SAMA WON'T BE COMING BACK AGAIN.

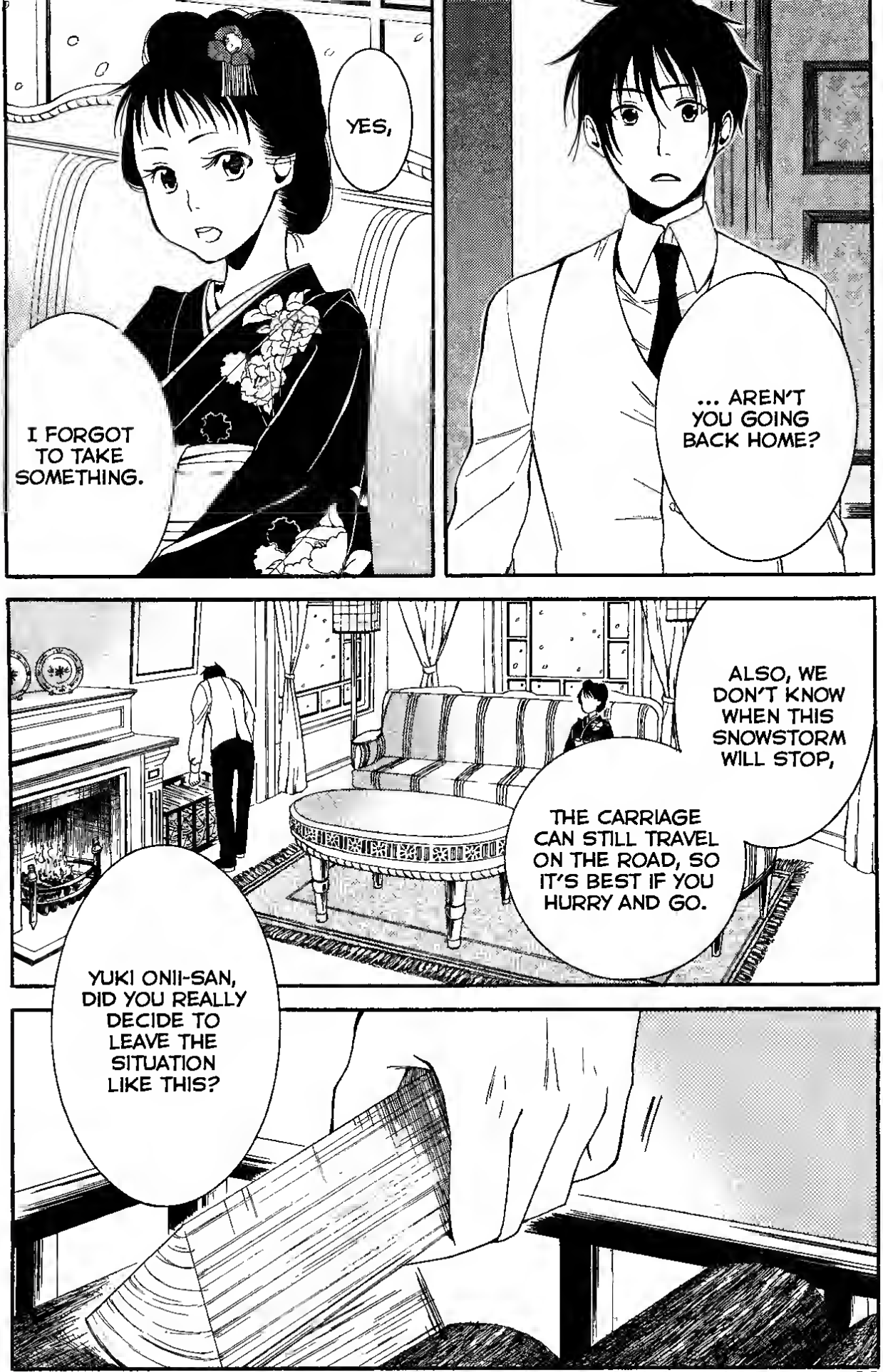
HE'S AN IMPORTANT PERSON,
HE CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE ANY MISFORTUNES HAPPEN TO HIM.


.....
IS THAT SO?

?

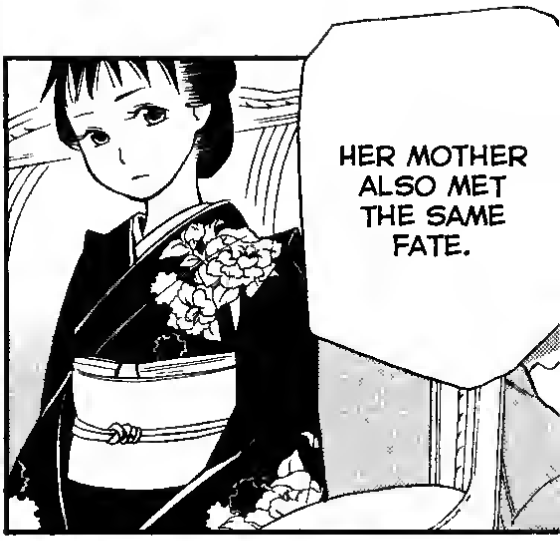
カサッ
IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE YOU NEED, PLEASE CALL FOR ME,
IN A MOMENT, THE NURSE ON DUTY WILL STOP BY--

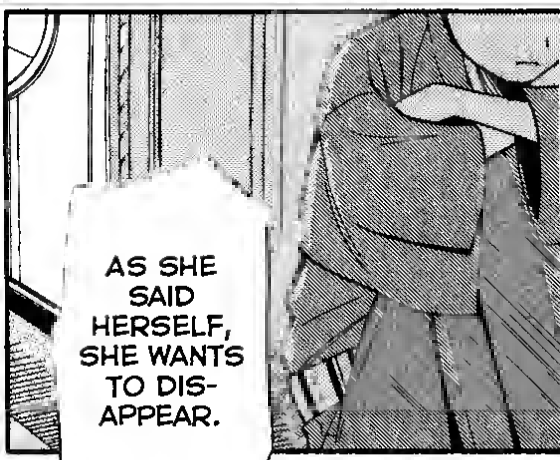

チャリ


YES,
I FORGOT TO TAKE SOMETHING.
... AREN'T YOU GOING BACK HOME?
ALSO, WE DON'T KNOW WHEN THIS SNOWSTORM WILL STOP,
THE CARRIAGE CAN STILL TRAVEL ON THE ROAD, SO IT'S BEST IF YOU HURRY AND GO.
YUKI ONII-SAN, DID YOU REALLY DECIDE TO LEAVE THE SITUATION LIKE THIS?

... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
DON'T ACT STUPID,
YOUR BAD HABIT IS THAT EVEN IF YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT, YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING.
ONII-SAN, YOU'RE TOO COWARD-LY.
IF YOU THINK THAT'S ENOUGH TO AVOID THIS, THEN YOU'RE UTTERLY WRONG.
BECAUSE... THIS IS WHAT SHE WISHED FOR.
THEN WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?

I CAN ONLY DISAPPEAR FROM HER ...

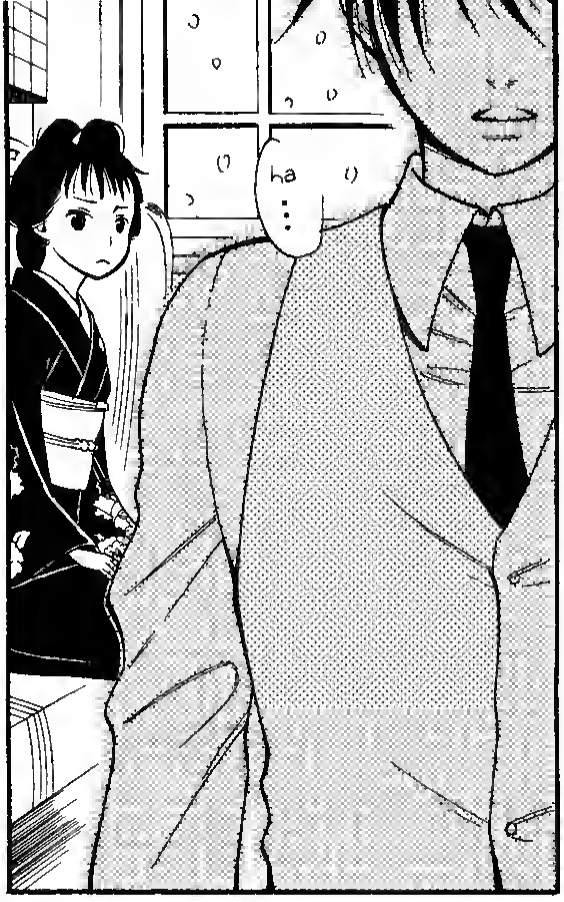

HER MOTHER ALSO MET THE SAME FATE.

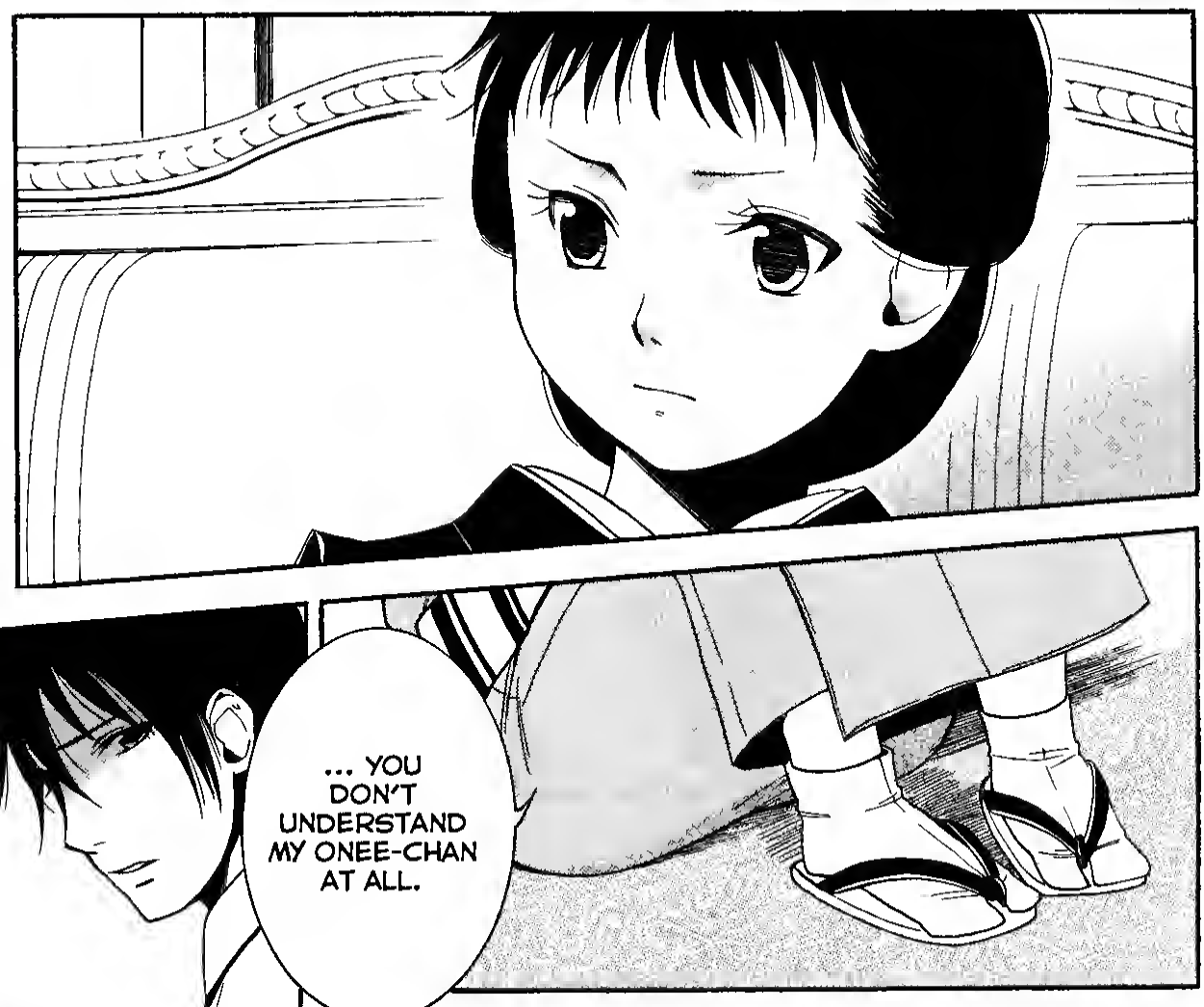

AS SHE SAID HERSELF, SHE WANTS TO DIS-APPEAR.

THEN WHAT DO YOU SAY I CAN STILL DO?

HOW DO I FACE HER?

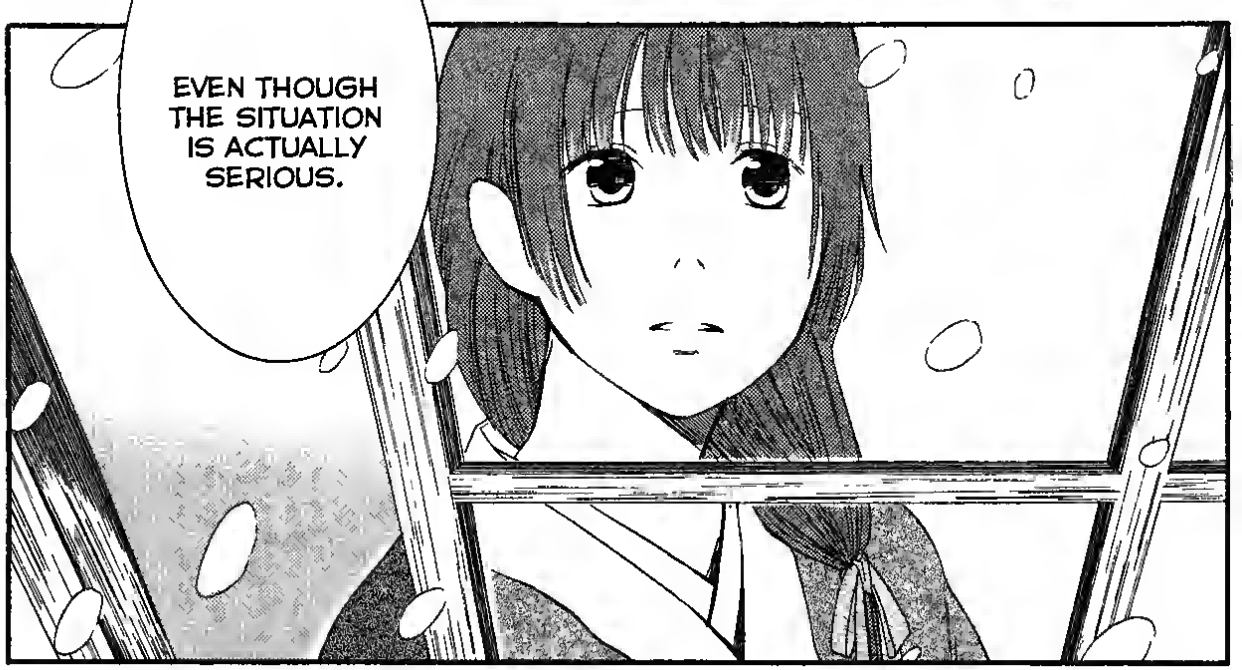
I'M SORRY.


ha
...


... YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND MY ONEE-CHAN AT ALL.

YOU ...
ONEE-CHAN WILL ONLY SAY WORDS THAT ARE PLEASING TO HEAR.

SHE'LL SAY IT'S NOT A PROBLEM,

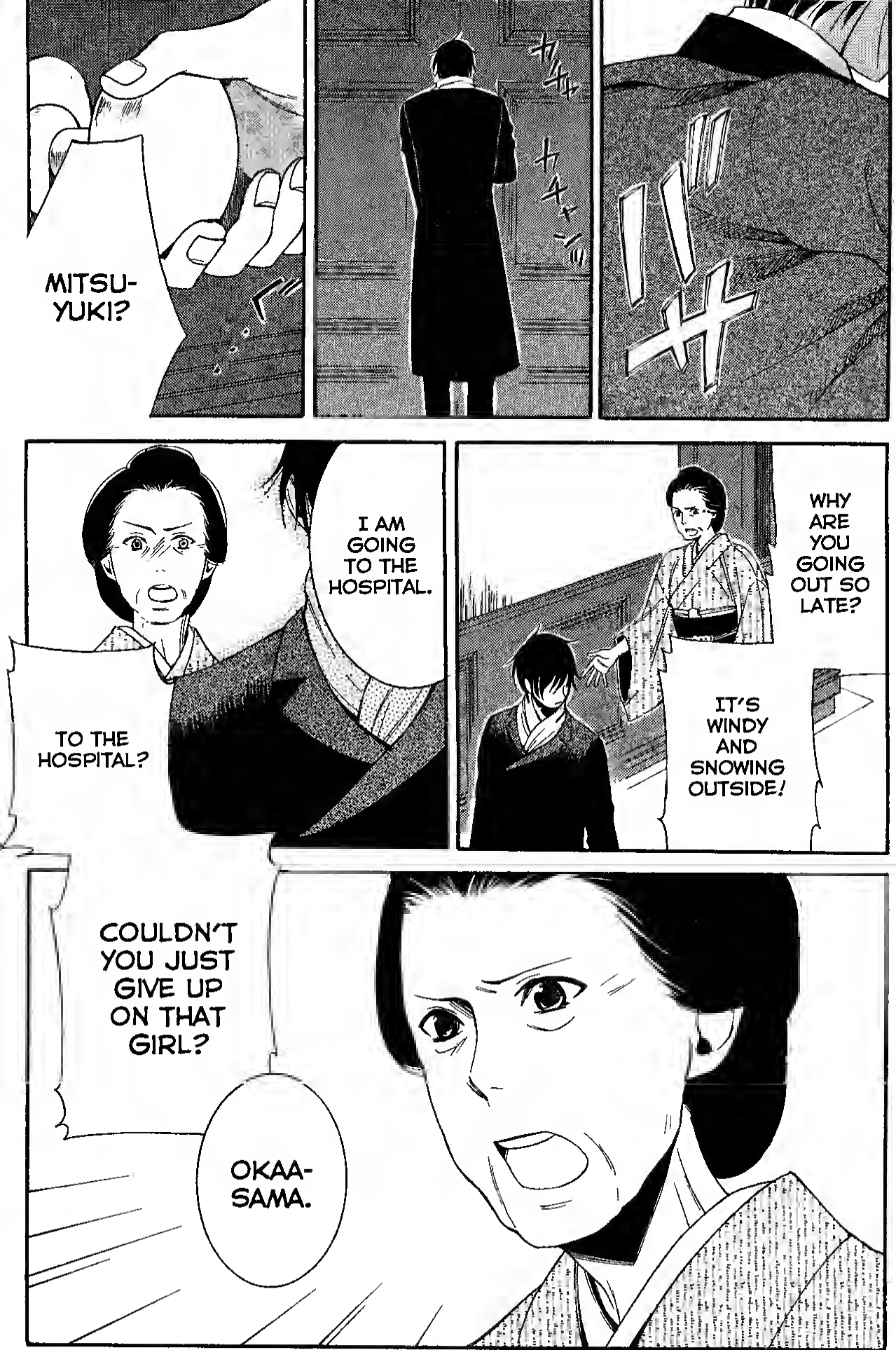

EVEN THOUGH THE SITUATION IS ACTUALLY SERIOUS.

... I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR SITUATION,
AND I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU ARE A GOOD OR BAD PERSON.
BUT I KNOW THAT ONEE-CHAN REALLY TREASURES YOU.

PLEASE GO SEE ONEE-CHAN.
ONEE-CHAN WILL DEFINITELY WANT TO SEE YOU.
PLEASE SAVE MY ONEE-CHAN...
ALSO,

MITSUYUKI-ONII-SAN, I ALSO BEG OF YOU.
EH?

IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ONII-SAN,
CHIZURU WILL CONTINUE THE ARIMA HOUSEHOLD.
SO, ONII-SAN, PLEASE DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.
I THINK THIS IS SOMETHING ONLY YUKI ONII-SAN CAN DO.


MITSU-YUKI?
I AM GOING TO THE HOSPITAL.
TO THE HOSPITAL?
WHY ARE YOU GOING OUT SO LATE?
IT'S WINDY AND SNOWING OUTSIDE!
COULDN'T YOU JUST GIVE UP ON THAT GIRL?
OKAA-SAMA.

I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE ONLY LOOKING OUT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ARIMA FAMILY.
BUT I HAVE ALREADY DECIDED.
IF I DO NOT DO THIS, I WILL REGRET IT.
I AM GOING.

...
MITSU-
YUKI!
ｶﾗﾝ
ｶﾗﾝｶﾗﾝ

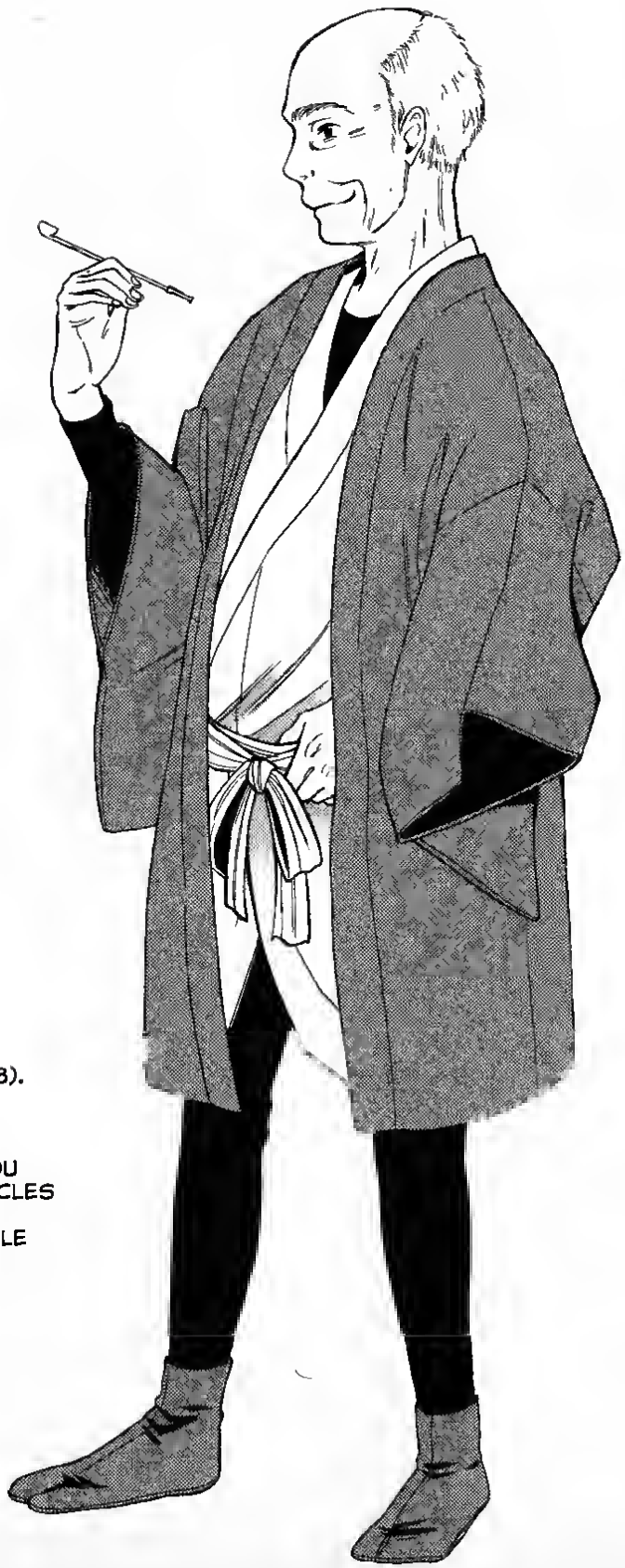
THE FLOWER VASE'S WATER,
WILL IT FREEZE?
ha…
ブルッ
ヒュッ
！
ドサッ
ゲホッ
ゲホゲホ
ha…
ha…
ドサ
ha…

UGH...
I DIDN'T KNOW
BEING ALONE WOULD MAKE SOMEONE SO SCARED.
MOTHER ...
AKI-YOSHI ...

MITSU-
YUKI-
SAMA.

ナレっ
ナレっ
ナレ

HANA...



I COULDN'T MAKE THIS HAPPEN IN THIS BOOK, SO I PUT THIS HERE (3).

HANDSOME UNCLE.

WHEN LOOKING AT PHOTOGRAPHS, YOU WILL OFTEN SEE THESE KINDS OF UNCLES IN TWOS AND THREES FULL OF LIVELY SPIRIT THAT INVARIABLY BRINGS A SMILE TO YOUR LIPS.